

Art Unit: 2642

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the references found in searching the prior art teach an audio conferencing system streamed onto the Internet with a *mixer* that provides a *summed conference signal*.

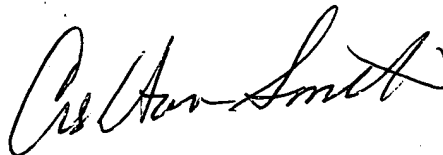
Smythe et al, Doganata et al, & Christie IV et al teach an audio conference that is streamed over the Internet, but do not teach applicant's *mixer* that provides a *summed conference signal*. Neither do Smythe, Christie, or Dognata teach an audio conferencing system that has a 1st & 2nd plurality of DSPs, whereby the *1st DSPs* will send a *summed conference signal to the 2nd plurality of DSPs*. No obvious combination of references found would teach one having ordinary skill in the art to make and use applicant's invention as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to C Smith whose telephone number is (703) 308-2488.

Creighton Smith

May 29, 2003



Creighton Smith
Primary Examiner